Applied IT for the CDC's Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Program

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Early identification of an outbreak is essential, as rapid public health response minimizes morbidity and mortality. The Early Aberration Reporting System (EARS) is a software solution designed to aid in the early identification of bioterrorism events and other disease outbreaks. EARS implements established aberration detection methodologies. In parallel and supporting the laboratory side of response, the LRN Geographic Information System (GIS) map server was created as a way of visually providing critical data through the CDC intranet on the nation's laboratory readiness, displaying many data elements in a unified fashion.